

PUBLIC CHAPTER NO. 759

SENATE BILL NO. 3135

By Berke, Watson, Williams

Substituted for: House Bill No. 2792

By Dean, Brown, McCormick, Favors, Jim Cobb, Floyd

AN ACT to designate a segment of Interstate 24 in Hamilton County as the "Officer Julie Jacks Memorial Highway".

WHEREAS, our nation was conceived by individuals who were willing to sacrifice their own concerns to ensure our collective freedom and personal safety, and the Volunteer State is especially proud to be the home of so many valiant men and women who have performed above and beyond the call of duty; and

WHEREAS, in providing for the domestic tranquility of the community as a whole, society recognizes the need for a system of laws; the enforcement of the law has been entrusted to a small number of dedicated individuals who daily face the rigors of human conflict in protecting those whom they so selflessly serve; and

WHEREAS, the people of Tennessee are fortunate to be served by the brave and dedicated law enforcement officers who put their lives on the line while carrying out their essential duties; and

WHEREAS, Officer Julie Rochelle Jacks of the Chattanooga Police Department was one such outstanding public servant; citizens across the state and the members of the General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of her tragic and untimely death in the line of duty on May 6, 2002; and

WHEREAS, a three-year veteran of the Chattanooga Police Department, Officer Jacks truly enjoyed being a police officer, and she evidenced uncommon dedication to her duties despite the long hours and the uncertain and often dangerous nature of her profession; and

WHEREAS, Officer Jacks performed her appointed duties in an admirable manner that distinguished her as a credit to both her community and her profession; Chattanooga was undoubtedly made a better and safer place to live during her service; and

WHEREAS, a great tragedy befell the State of Tennessee on the fateful day of May 6, 2002, when Officer Jacks was shot and killed while attempting to apprehend a suspect who had fled from a hospital during a mental evaluation; and

WHEREAS, the citizens of Chattanooga, and indeed the entire State, have felt the deep pain produced by this terrible and wasteful loss of one of our best and brightest law enforcement officers; and

WHEREAS, named Rookie of the Year by the Department in 2001, Officer Jacks regarded her work as an officer to be of the utmost significance; her loyalty and commitment to justice fueled her determination to become an officer of the law; and

WHEREAS, Officer Julie Jacks has left behind an indelible legacy of integrity, probity, and valor in her public life as a law enforcement officer, compassion and loyalty in private life, and dedication in all her chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, this General Assembly wishes to permanently commemorate the bountiful life of this exceptional police officer and human being by naming in her honor the segment of Interstate Highway 24 lying within the area she regularly patrolled as a member of Fox team; now, therefore,

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, the segment of Interstate 24 in the City of Chattanooga from Central Avenue to South Crest Overpass is hereby designated the "Officer Julie Jacks Memorial Highway" as a lasting tribute to an exemplary public servant who made the ultimate sacrifice while protecting her community and fellow citizens.

SECTION 2. The Department of Transportation is directed to erect suitable markers or to affix suitable signs designating the segment of Interstate 24 described in Section 1 as the "Officer Julie Jacks Memorial Highway". The cost of such signage shall be funded in accordance with § 54-1-133.

SECTION 3. This act shall become operative only if the federal highway administrator advises the Commissioner of Transportation in writing that the provisions of this act shall not render Tennessee in violation of federal laws and regulations and subject to penalties prescribed therein.

SECTION 4. The erection of such signs shall be within the guidelines prescribed by the *Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices*.

SECTION 5. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.

PASSED: April 3, 2008



RON RAMSEY
SPEAKER OF THE SENATE



JIMMY NAIFEH, SPEAKER
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APPROVED this 15th day of April 2008



PHIL BREDESEN, GOVERNOR